



La Barranca Fire Update

Date: June 2, 2006, Noon

Fire Name: La Barranca Fire

Time/Date Started: Thursday, June 1, 2006 – 2 p.m.

Location: Oak Creek Village; The La Barranca Fire started on La Barranca Drive in the Village of Oak Creek, south of Sedona and east of Highway 179. The fire started on private property and moved onto the Red Rock Ranger District of the Coconino National Forest. It is now actively burning in the Munds Mountain Wilderness.

Cause: Human-caused. The La Barranca Fire was caused by a fence company that was grinding on a metal fence post on private property.

Fuels: Grass, brush, juniper woodland

Size: Total Size – 1,500 acres

% Contained: 0 %

Resources Committed: 6 Type 1 crews (hotshot crews), 6 Type 2 crews, 4 helicopters (2 heavy and 2 medium helicopters), airtankers available if needed, 22 engines, 5 water tenders. Total personnel = about 250

Estimated Cost to Date: Unknown at this time.

Predicted Weather: Increase in daytime temperatures. Very low afternoon relative humidities. A slight chance of dry thunderstorms.

Structures:

Structures have been lost:

- 1 primary residence destroyed

- 1 partially-damaged residence

- 1 guest house/shop destroyed

- 3 outbuildings destroyed

From Estate Circle up canyon in the fire area, 158 total structures were saved.

Summary: A briefing will be held today at 1 p.m. at the Red Cross evacuation center in the Big Park Community School for evacuated residents. Residents will not be able to return to their homes today due to safety concerns. Fire managers will reassess conditions tomorrow morning to determine if residents can return.

Concerns: Steep, rocky, inaccessible terrain.

Closures:

Trails closed – Woods Canyon, Jacks Canyon, Hot Loop, Munds Mountain

Roads closed – The section of Schnebly Hill Road from I-17 to the gate at Merry-Go-Round

Restrictions: Fire restrictions are in effect on the Coconino National Forest.

La Barranca Fire Contact Numbers: 928-204-6538, 928-606-7490, 928-606-7561, 928-606-7578